

WILL ADMIRAL STURDEE CATCH THE RUNAWAY GERMAN CRUISERS?

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One Halfpenny

THE MAN WITH THE IRON JAW: THE HERO OF THE GREAT BRITISH NAVAL VICTORY.

P. 16297

P. 4608



Admiral Graf von Spee, who, presumably, is drowned, and some of his officers.

Q. 584C

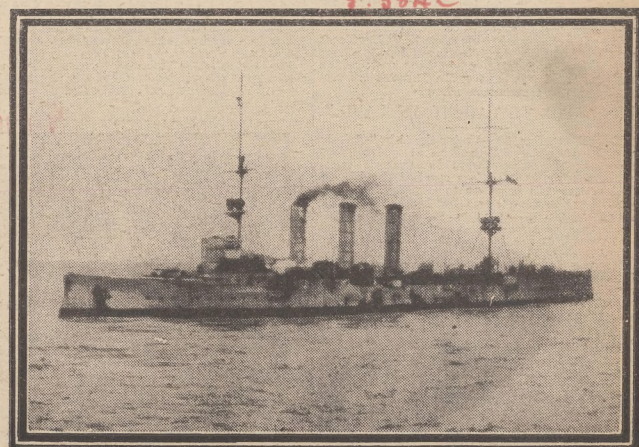


Portrait of Sir Frederick Sturdee. It was taken only a month ago.

Q. 584C



The crew of the flagship Scharnhorst marching through the Portsmouth streets.



The cruiser Dresden, which is being pursued by the British squadron.

Admiral Sir Frederick Sturdee's brilliant naval victory off the Falkland Islands means a loss in matériel in the German Navy which is by no means inconsiderable. The Scharnhorst was the crack gunnery vessel of the enemy's navy and the flagship of Admiral Graf von Spee, who, it may be assumed, has gone down with his ship. The

Scharnhorst on one occasion visited Portsmouth, and the men who have now lost their lives were most hospitably entertained. Did they wonder at the time if they would ever meet their hosts in action? The Dresden is one of the cruisers which managed to make off during the action.—(Elliott and Fry and C.N.)

ADOPTED BABY OR HEIR TO ESTATES?

Woman's Story of Visit to a
Foundling Hospital.

CHRISTENING BLESSINGS.

Further remarkable evidence taken on commission was read in the Probate Court yesterday when the hearing of the "baby heir" case was resumed.

This evidence was taken in support of the case for those who oppose the claim of the four-year-old boy, Charles Eugene Edward Slingsby, to be heir to the Slingsby estates in Yorkshire.

These gentlemen are called "the parties cited." They are Mr. T. W. Slingsby and Mr. A. P. Slingsby, brothers of Mr. Charles Henry Reynard Slingsby, who as nominal petitioner has asked the Court to say that the boy, who was born in San Francisco, is his legitimate son. The hearing was again adjourned.

AN "INCUBATOR BABY."

Counsel, when proceedings were resumed, continued to read depositions of witnesses who gave their evidence before a commission in California.

The evidence of Mrs. Goodfriend said that when she first came to the hotel Mrs. Slingsby had said that she had had a baby, which had been put out to nurse.

Cross-examined, Mrs. Goodfriend said that Mrs. Slingsby had told her that the baby was a delicate one. She called it an "incubator baby." She did not say where the baby had been born.

At the time of the christening she had said to the witness, "Do not tell my mother how old the baby is."

The witness had sent some flowers as a christening present, with a card bearing the message, "Blessings on thee, little man."

"A CHILD TO ADOPT."

Mrs. Hattie Blaine, of McAllister-street, San Francisco, in evidence said her occupation was "massage and electric business." She had known Mrs. Slingsby over twenty years.

Where did you first become acquainted with her?—At the Turkish baths.

You used to treat her?—Yes, and afterwards she came to my own private baths.

Did Mrs. Slingsby ever stay or sleep at your house?—No.

Did you nurse Mrs. Slingsby at your home in McAllister-street?—No.

Was a child born to Mrs. Slingsby at your home?—No.

In August, 1910, witness met Mrs. Slingsby in San Francisco. Mrs. Slingsby placed an advertisement in the newspaper for a child to adopt.

Later witness and Mrs. Slingsby visited a hospital, but there was no child available.

"MONEY TO BE GOTTEN."

On or about September 2, 1910, witness went with Mrs. Slingsby to Dr. Fraser's office in Grant-avenue, where the doctor handed over a baby to Mrs. Slingsby.

The child was taken in a taxicab to a nurse named Mrs. Owings.

How old was the child?—A day old.

How did you know that?—I am a nurse, and could see.

Cross-examined, witness said detectives called and saw her. One came late on Christmas Eve. "I slammed the door in his face," said witness.

The detectives asked if Mrs. Slingsby had a child in witness's house, and she said "Yes" at first and then said she had not.

Dr. Fraser called on her on her return from Chicago. He said there was money in the case and there "was money to be gotten."

On the evening of September 1, 1910, witness stated, Mrs. Slingsby telephoned her that she had a boy, and later, when they met, advised that the child was born at Dr. Fraser's office.

POOR OLD "DECADENT ENGLAND."

New York, Dec. 10.—Under the title "Britain as Germany's Vassal," the New York Herald announces that General von Bernhardt's latest work, written in 1913, has reached the United States, and will be given to the public by his publisher there on December 15.

The book is remarkable for the author's spirit of prophecy as far as his country's intentions are concerned, or else he must have known the German military programme.

He says Germany must acquire supremacy in Europe and follow this by the mastery of the world. "Decadent England" must be made subservient to Germany by war or by alliance, and in either case must relinquish her naval supremacy and leave the Triple Entente.—Central News.

STABBED IN RACE TRAIN.

It was stated yesterday that Mr. George Morton, of Footing, who was wounded by "roughs" while returning in a race train at Clapham Junction, is not expected to recover.

Three men are stated to be concerned, and so far have eluded the police, who are searching for them. It appears that a dispute arose between them and Mr. Morton regarding financial matters, and one of the men stabbed Mr. Morton while the others roughly handled him.

At Clapham Junction the assailants made their escape, and as soon as he was discovered, Mr. Morton was removed to the Bellingbrooke Hospital, where an operation was performed.

KHAKI WEDDING.

Lord Howard de Walden's Tiny Twin
Children Distribute Floral Favours.

CALL FOR "AUNTIE" IN CHURCH

The tiny twin children of Lord Howard de Walden, plainly dressed in cream, were interesting figures yesterday at the wedding of Mr. Noel Francis, R.F.A., and Miss Gwendolen Van Raalte, in St. George's, Hanover-square. The two children carried baskets filled with flower favours, which they distributed to the guests at the reception.

It was a real war wedding. The bridegroom wore khaki, the bride was given away by a naval officer and most of the men guests were in khaki.

The bride was dressed in sensible "war fashion." She wore a white satin gown devoid of train and quite short, and carried a simple bouquet.

She also wore a chignon cap with long blue ribbon ends falling behind and a little pink flower in her hair.

In the midst of the ceremony one of the twins cried out in a loud voice "Auntie!" and made some inaudible request, and it was difficult for a moment for the congregation to be serious.

MARRIED DURING LEAVE.



Mr. Noel Francis (Royal Field Artillery) and his bride (Miss Gwendolen Van Raalte), whose postponed wedding took place yesterday. The bridegroom had only a few hours' leave from the front.

A VERY LONG WAY.

There was an unusual scene at the Old Bailey yesterday.

Said Mr. Justice Avey to a man in the dock: "You are one of the most dangerous criminals that have appeared at this court. You must go to penal servitude for eight years."

It was a stiff sentence, and the man—a valet, who was accused of demanding money with menaces from a woman—looked hard at the Judge. Then he turned sharply, and as he walked out of the dock began singing. The words were familiar—"It's a long, long way to Tipperary; it's a long way to go."

AIRMEN OFF TO GERMAN TOWN.

AMSTERDAM, Dec. 10.—The *Nieuws van den Dag* learns from Sittard, in the province of Limburg, that yesterday evening at 6.30 two aeroplanes coming from a southerly direction flew over Sittard and then proceeded eastwards to Germany in the direction of Duesseldorf. Searchlights were working at short intervals.—Reuter.

Duesseldorf, it will be remembered, has already been the victim of a British air raid, in which Flight Lieutenants Marix and Sippe took part.



Cover of the box containing the Christmas gift which Princess Mary is sending to the sailors and soldiers. On it is an embossed portrait of the Princess.—(Daily Mirror) photograph.

"WORTH £140 A WEEK."

Judge Compliments Boy Artist Who
"Sings About the Girls."

SILK HAT AND SPATS "TURN."

A boy music-hall artist made a very successful appearance yesterday in the Law Courts, winning this praise from the Judge: "I am beginning to think you are worth £140 a week."

He was a bright little lad named Ivor Viktor, and he was called to give evidence in the suit for alleged breach of agreement brought by Miss Vesta Victoria against Moss Empires, Limited.

The case turns on the point whether it was his duty to attend rehearsals. This she denies.

The boy artist told the Court that he appeared at the Stratford Empire on December 8 instead of Miss Victoria.

The boy added that two minutes after his arrival at the Empire he had his turn, and he did not rehearse.

The Judge: What do you perform?—Comedy.

Counsel: You don't sing?—Daddy won't buy me a bow-wow?—No, it is more about the girls.

(Loud laughter.)—You don't sing?—Well, I "take off" the love song.

You wear a morning suit, a silk hat, spats and gloves?—Yes.

During the further examination of Miss Victoria, counsel said he had the music of her songs, if the jury would like to see it.

The Judge: Perhaps if you press it we shall have to ask her to sing.

Counsel: The jury no doubt would rather hear this lady sing than hear my monotonous sing-song.

Mr. Gibbons: She will do it if the defendants pay. (Laughter.)

There was an amusing interlude when Mr. Gregory produced a table showing the times allotted to various artists for their performances.

It appeared that the longest time (twenty-five minutes) applied to "Should a Woman Tell?"

"Apparently she has got good time to think it over," commented counsel. (Renewed laughter.)

The hearing was adjourned.

PLAIN OF THE COLD.

Strathcona's Horse, Cheerful Despite Biting
Winds, Long for Call to Front.

On Salisbury Plain the officers and men of Strathcona's Horse are making the best of things.

They splash about in the sleet and mud and stamp their feet and beat their hands together, and smile in spite of the wind and cold.

They are waiting anxiously to get to the front.

In the meantime Colonel Macdonald is doing all he can to make them comfortable. He has made them a brave effort to give them a recreation tent, where they can gather of an evening and enjoy themselves in warmth and comfort.

The wind has frequently torn the marquee down, but, no matter how often it falls, it is always put up again.

At "revellie" the men receive hot tea, which is brought to their tents by the pickets.

At night, just before "last post," hot soup is served, so that they can roll up warm in their blankets.

Arrangements are being made for the men on picket to have sheepskin-lined coats, leather top-boots and fur-lined gloves.

One of the men said: "It does not matter about us; we can stand it. But I hate to see my poor little mount shivering with the cold when I go out to him in the morning."

THE KING AWAY FOR WEEK-END.

The King and Queen, accompanied by Princess Mary, left St. Pancras yesterday afternoon by special train for Sandringham, where they are to stay until Tuesday next.

The royal party were received at the station by Lord Cland Hamilton, chairman of the Great Eastern Railway, with whom the King and Queen chatted for a few minutes before the train started.

"ANNIE LAURIE" SUNG IN FOES' TRENCH.

German Who Serenaded 'Tommies'
with Scottish Songs.

SERMON IN "CRATER."

(From Our Own Correspondent.)

Aldershot, Dec. 10.—"Yes; we chaps all look upon the forty-eight hours' run home from the battle-front as the half-time of this war."

Spoke a sergeant of the Royal Horse Artillery who, with a little knot of war-scarred "Tommies," was enjoying a few leisurely moments in a sergeants' mess at Aldershot. And he added:

"Take it from me, the biggest international battle in history will be all over in another four months, and the 'Allies United' will win handsomely."

Most of the brave fellows to old acquaintances of mine, and all had a tale to tell.

"Plenty of fellows getting the V.C. Of course there are, but every fellow who has fought has in some way or other earned the medal."

CHASE OF THE CHICKEN.

"Why, our little trumpeter, had he been saving a wounded man under the same conditions as he collared a chicken for his comrades' dinner, would have certainly obtained the coveted Cross."

We were being shelled and fired on fiercely when a chicken suddenly ran into a very inferno of fire.

"There goes our dinner!" cried the trumpeter, and without another word he chased the bird for at least five minutes, never worrying a little bit about the shells and bullets.

"Finally he came back with a bullet in his leg, but as proud as the Kaiser himself with the squawking chicken in his arms."

"Do you know what he said the Kaiser now? I said another speaker. 'Why, 'Spiky Bill,' not so much because of his helmet, but because he is so wild at not getting to Calais."

AMONG "JACK JOHNSONS."

One of the Loyal North Lancashires told how "drumhead" church had to be moved out of the way of "Jack Johnsons." Then a "Jack Johnson" fell fifty yards behind, making such a big hole that the parson decided to finish the service with a sermon in the "crater."

Once the trenches dividing the British and the Germans were so close together that, according to one of the Lancashires, "Tommies" a German got up in the night and sang "Annie Laurie."

"When he had finished he called out in a Scottish voice, 'Did you like my singing?' and when we said 'Yes,' he shouted that if we had got any baccy we were safe if we brought it that way."

"One of our men went over with some cigarettes, and returned with a German."

"Then in the early morning we captured the trenches at the point of the bayonet."

"Among the prisoners was a German who started us by singing 'It's far too early in the morning to waken me.'"

"You could almost have sworn that it was Harry Lauder, so greatly did our prisoner resemble the comedian."

"He had been fifteen years around the docks of what he called 'the finest city in the world'—Glasgow."

P. J. WARE.

NEWS ITEMS.

400,000 Tons of Wheat for Italy.

The Italian Government has bought from Argentine 400,000 tons of wheat, for the conveyance of which 120 steamers will be necessary, says a Paris message.

Trains Stopped by Floods.

Train services in the Rode district (Isle of Wight) are suspended by the deep flooding of the tunnel, and floods also prevent trains from running between Newport and Sandown.

Russians Mine Black Sea.

The Russian Government notifies neutral shipping, says Reuter, that military reasons compel it to place mines off Russian and Turkish coasts and ports in the Black Sea.

£1,000,000 Damage by Fire.

The entire main plant of the Thomas A. Edison Company, at West Orange, New Jersey, has been virtually destroyed by fire, says a Reuter cable, £1,000,000 damage being done.

Breslau Looking for Trouble.

The German cruiser Breslau, says a Reuter Sebastopol message, fired on some transports on Wednesday morning, but bombs dropped by Russian hydroplanes forced the Breslau to take flight.

Adrift in Lifeboat.

Of the crew of the Swedish steamer Emma, which went ashore early yesterday on Kneveton Rock, Farn Islands (Northumberland), seventeen have been landed at Seahouses, but three are adrift in the ship's lifeboat.

British Ships Told to Quit.

Two British colliers—the Skirwood and Roddman—says the Central News, had to leave the Panama territorial waters yesterday at the order of the Governor of the Panama Canal zone.

Sentry Killed by Train.

Whilst guarding a railway bridge at Woking early yesterday morning, Private Edward Taylor (Surrey National Reserve) was struck on the head by a passing train and received fatal injuries.

ADMIRAL STURDEE "CARRIES ON" BY SINKING ANOTHER CRUISER

Nurnberg Sent to Bottom and Chase of Dresden Continued.

DOVER ATTACKED BY GERMAN SUBMARINES.

Battery's Big Guns Bombard Raiders in Glare of Searchlights.

TWO ENEMY CRAFT REPORTED TO HAVE BEEN SUNK.

Germany's Navy is rapidly growing smaller, two more reverses for the enemy being reported yesterday.

Admiral Sturdee continues, in the Navy's phrase, to "carry on" in the South Atlantic, where the Nurnberg has been added to his victims.

Dover Harbour was the scene of the other German failure.

Submarines in the early morning made a daring raid on the harbour, but were seen and shelled. It is believed that one, if not two, of the enemy's submarines were sunk.

By the sinking of the Nurnberg Admiral von Spee's squadron has been utterly shattered.

Only the small cruiser Dresden has been able to escape. The British cruisers are in pursuit, and the Dresden's fate cannot be long delayed.

Though the action, it is now revealed by the Admiralty, lasted for five hours, no loss of any British vessel has been reported.

In the end the enemy's light cruisers were scattered and British cruisers and light cruisers at once set off in pursuit.

There are now only five German warships out side the North Sea.

Of these, the Dresden, Karlsruhe and Bremen are protected cruisers and the others, the Prince Bittel Friedrich and Kronprinz Wilhelm are war-liners.

DRESDEN ESCAPES AFTER FIVE HOURS' FIGHT.

Admiralty Statement on Chase of German Cruisers That Were Scattered.

The following additional details of the British naval victory off the Falkland Islands were issued last night by the Admiralty:—

A further telegram has been received from Vice-Admiral Sir Doveton Sturdee reporting that the Nurnberg was sunk on December 8, and that the search for the Dresden is still proceeding.

The action lasted for five hours with intervals. The Scharnhorst sank after three hours and the Gneisenau two hours later.

The enemy's light cruisers scattered and were chased by our cruisers and light cruisers.

No loss of any British vessel is reported. The light cruiser Nurnberg (3,400 tons) was some 300 tons larger than the cruiser Leipzig which, as reported yesterday by the Admiralty, was sunk with the Scharnhorst and Gneisenau.

She had a speed of twenty-five knots and the weight of her broadside was 175lb. Her armament included ten 4.1in. guns.

The Dresden, like the Leipzig and Nurnberg, is a light cruiser and has a good turn of speed being able to do twenty-four knots. Her tonnage is 3,500 and the weight of her broadside is 220lb.

VON SPEE DROWNED?

New York, Dec. 10.—A wireless message from Port Stanley, Falkland Islands, after stating that a British fleet sunk the German cruisers Scharnhorst, Gneisenau and Leipzig, says that Admiral von Spee went down with the flagship.

A bulletin just received says that the Germans tried to avoid the British, but miscalculated the route they would take.—Exchange.

JOY AT NAVAL VICTORY.

There were rejoicings throughout the Empire when the news of the naval victory became known.

Australia was particularly delighted, and in Melbourne the streets were decorated.

Everyone is waiting to hear of the fate of the other German cruiser Dresden, which made off after the "Battle of the Falkland Isles."

The King had sent a message to Vice-Admiral Sturdee and to the officers and men under his command congratulating them on their victory.

The following message was received by the First Lord of the Admiralty from Sir John French:—

The Army in France warmly congratulates Admiral Sturdee and the Navy on their brilliant

victory, and may I also congratulate you and the Admiralty on now having practically swept the seas clear of the enemy's ships?

M. Victor Augagneur, French Minister of Marine, and the Sudan Government also sent congratulatory messages.

In the House of Assembly, Melbourne, says Reuter, the members rose and gave three cheers for the British Navy.

BERLIN ADMITS GREAT LOSSES.

AMSTERDAM, Dec. 10.—An official Admiralty communiqué issued to-day in Berlin reproduces the official statement of the British Admiralty on the sinking of the three German cruisers, and adds: "Our losses seem to have been great. Concerning the strength of the enemy, whose losses are reported to be small, the British dispatches say nothing.—Reuter.

"FOUGHT LIKE HEROES."

A vivid story of H.M.S. Otranto's escape after the sinking of the Momouth and the Good Hope is told in a letter received in Preston from one of the crew.

After emphasising the superior range of the German guns to those on the British ships then engaged, the writer states that "although the Momouth and Good Hope were both on fire, Admiral Cradock ordered the Otranto and the Glasgow to clear off."

"He was undoubtedly a brave British admiral and gentleman, and our lives are due to him."

"Every man fought like a hero, but we were no more than half as strong in gun power, and if you have not the tools what can England expect?"

In describing the Otranto's escape the writer says: "We deceived them after being chased nearly 3,000 miles, and are looking forward to going south again to give them the finishing touch, which, no doubt, they will get."

GERMAN SUBMARINES' RAID ON DOVER.

Enemy Craft Sighted Near Harbour at Dawn and Two Reported Sunk by Big Guns.

Dover was roused yesterday by a furious cannonade in the early morning, when it was discovered that German submarines were attempting a daring raid on the harbour.

The raiding submarines, variously estimated to number from five to eight, were seen, and, while searchlights played on the surface, guns of the fort on the eastern arm of the harbour swept the sea for the space of a mile.

It is stated that one submarine was seen to be hit and to sink, and that the periscope of a second of these vessels was noticed during the firing to oscillate and then to disappear.

The Admiralty request us to state that they have received no confirmation of this and that no damage was suffered on the British side.

CREEPING TO ATTACK.

(From Our Special Correspondent.)

DOVER, Dec. 10.—A minor naval action was fought this morning off the Admiralty Breakwater, and so far as I can ascertain two German submarines were either sunk or badly damaged. It is said that as many as five German submarines attempted at about 4.30 this morning to creep into Dover Harbour.

Their object was, of course, to torpedo any craft that might be lying in the vicinity.

They crept in with their periscopes like black needles showing above the water, finding their course by the aid of the flashing searchlight on the look-out for enemy ships.

Two of the submarines passed the end of the Admiralty Breakwater. Their periscopes were at once observed by the military on the breakwater.

They passed on, and then suddenly turned, making for the entrance to the harbour.

The guns on the breakwater immediately opened fire on them.

One of the submarines disappeared; the other, after the periscopes had oscillated to and fro for some time, also slowly sank.

Firing continued intermittently. I am told by residents in Dover, from 4.30 to 6.45 a.m.

The war went with the crash of the guns, which awakened the inhabitants from their sleep, and as each shot was fired the dark sky was lit up with sudden bursts of flame.

An eye-witness stated that nothing could have lived in the zone of fire, so magnificent was the gunnery. The flotilla of torpedo-boat destroyers put out immediately, other boats patrolling the Straits made for the spot where the submarines were seen.

Later part of the flotilla of destroyers returned to harbour, while the others remained on patrol duty.

FLASHES IN THE DARK.

Another account says that it is believed that six or eight submarines took part in the attack on Dover Harbour.

A submarine was first sighted off the western entrance at 4.40 a.m. yesterday, and one of the heavy guns was fired. The submarine disappeared before any further shots could be got in.

It was just after 6.30 a.m. that the second attempt was made, and several submarines were then engaged in the effort to enter the harbour by the eastern entrance.

There were some warships lying in the harbour at the time, and these were undoubtedly the object of the attack.

The morning was very dark, and a rain haze additionally favoured the attempts of the submarines to slip past the defenders.

The effects of the gunnery were watched with keen interest by a number of people who had hurried on to the sea front.

Flashes of fire which stabbed through the darkness as the guns were rapidly swung round into various positions following the movements of the submarines had a weird effect, and these flashes were succeeded by the shattering "boom" of the shells.

As soon as the firing started the vessels of the destroyer flotilla were busily on the move, and soon steamed to sea to take part in repelling the attack.

About 100 rounds were fired from the guns of the eastern pier batteries during the operations. The gunners claim to have sunk one of the attacking submarines and to have hit others.

Men belonging to ships which were in the vicinity of the attack state that at least three of the submarines were hit.

NEW RUSSIAN SUCCESS.

PETROGRAD, Dec. 10.—The following communiqué is issued to-day by the General Staff:—

Yesterday there was no important change. Isolated attempts on the part of the enemy to take the offensive have given rise to engagements in the districts of Ciechanow and Przanys, as well as Piotrkow and several other districts on our front.

The result of the engagements was unfavourable to the Germans.

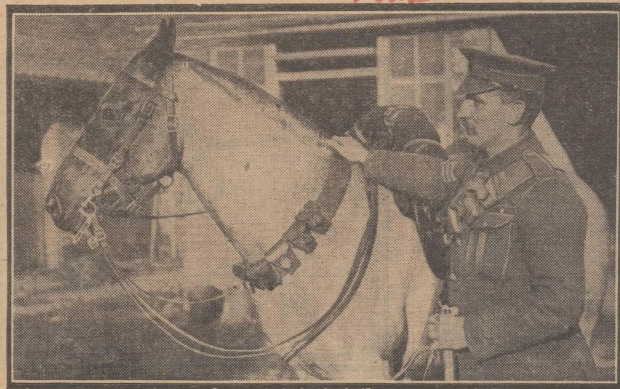
In the region of the passes of Vyszkow and Beskid, on December 8, during attacks on a fortified position held by the Austrians we captured four guns, more than 300 prisoners and many wagons.—Reuter.

AMSTERDAM, Dec. 10.—The following official communiqué from the Army Headquarters was published yesterday in Vienna:—

In the southern theatre of war part of our troops in Sarva encountered west of Milanoratz strong hostile forces and were unable to break through them.

In order to avoid a hostile counter-attack on some parts our troops were ordered to occupy more favourably situated positions.—Reuter.

Earlier tidings of a severe defeat inflicted on the Austrian Army and the capture of 20,000 Austrian prisoners.



New bandolier used by the Welsh Horse. It is hung round the horse's neck and attached to the saddle by a small strap. The idea enables a man to carry a larger quantity of ammunition.

CENSORING NEWS OF KAISER'S ILLNESS.

Berlin Official Report States Emperor's Health Has Improved Considerably.

BEDSIDE NEWS OF BATTLES.

Much mystery surrounds the illness of the Kaiser.

While the War Lord is officially reported to be suffering from bronchial catarrh, private messages from Berlin indicate that news of the Emperor's illness is being strictly censored and hint that his illness is really pneumonia.

MYSTERY OF ILLNESS.

AMSTERDAM, Dec. 10.—An official telegram from Berlin states that the health of the Emperor William has considerably improved. His catarrh is relaxing and his temperature is normal.—Reuter.

COPENHAGEN, Dec. 10.—A private dispatch from Berlin to the *Politiken* says that the illness of the Kaiser is not considered to be serious, but adds that the censorship is now very strict, and indeed more strict than at the beginning of the war.—Central News.

KAISER EXHAUSTED.

"If the report be true that the Kaiser has pneumonia he must, at any rate, be incapacitated and confined to his room for at least six weeks."

That was the opinion expressed by a well-known London doctor to *The Daily Mirror* yesterday.

"The Kaiser must now be a pathetic figure—overworked and exhausted, both mentally and physically, by the strain of his responsibilities."

The fact, too, that he is of a highly nervous temperament and suffers from irritable little brain storms probably aggravates his condition.

The Kaiser, if he has pneumonia, will certainly not be able to leave his room for six or seven weeks.

SIX ATTACKS REPULSED AND TRENCHES CAPTURED.

Allies Rush German Positions Under Heavy Rifle Fire—Guns Silenced.

The Allies continue to make steady progress and yesterday captured several trenches.

In view of the continued success of the Allies, it is interesting to recall that yesterday was the new date recently fixed by German officers for the taking of Calais.

PARIS, Dec. 10.—The following official communiqué was issued this afternoon:—

Yesterday, passed off quietly in Belgium, as well as in the region of Arras, where the enemy made no attempt to resume the offensive.

Further to the south, in the region of Quenoy and Andechy, we made some progress, varying between 200 and 600 yards.

Our gains have been maintained and consolidated.

In the region of the Aisne and in Champagne there has been no change.

The German artillery, over which we had an advantage on the previous days, displayed more activity yesterday, but was once more mastered by our heavy artillery.

In the neighbourhood of Rheims our heavy guns forced the Germans to evacuate several trenches. This evacuation was carried out under the fire of our infantry.

SIX ATTACKS REPULSED.

Throughout the Argonne our progress has continued. We have carried more trenches and repulsed with complete success six counter-attacks. We have also consolidated the ground wrested from the enemy.

On the heights of the Meuse there have been artillery duels in which we held a marked advantage in spite of the greater activity of the enemy's batteries.

In the Bois le Pretre we have captured some more trenches.

There is nothing further to report on the rest of the front as far as the Swiss frontier.—Reuter.

ARMIES SUCCESSFUL RAID.

PARIS, Dec. 10.—The official communiqué issued last night says:—

The general situation remains unchanged. Yesterday our airmen again threw bombs successfully on the station and aviation sheds at Freiburg, in Brisgau. Sixteen bombs were dropped.

In spite of a lively cannonade, the airmen returned safely.—Reuter.

REPORTED CAPTURE OF ROULERS.

AMSTERDAM, Dec. 10.—The Swiss correspondent of the *Handelsblad* reports that the Allies have entered Roulers.—Reuter.

HIGH COLLAR REVIVAL.



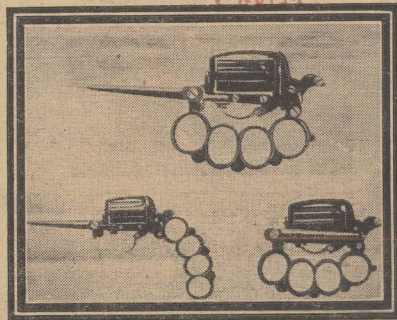
A charming walking costume. The tunic is of brown velvet, edged with skunk, and the skirt of brown satin. A lace ruffle is worn, with a high collar.—(Talbot.)

A RESPONSIBLE POST.
P. 649D

Sir George Gibb, chairman of the Road Board, who has been appointed a civilian member of the Army Council. He will be charged with the supervision of the Army contracts.

"LET THE GERMANS COME."
P. 1676Y

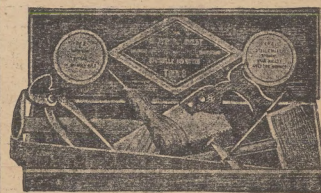
Max Findon, aged three, who insists on wearing officer's uniform. He will not play with toy soldiers and wants to join the Army. "Let the Germans come to Maida Vale," he says.

THREEFOLD WEAPON.
P. 481M

Weapon which the Germans allége that the Belgians have been using. It is gripped in the fingers and can be used as a dagger, a revolver, or simply as a "knuckle-duster."

WHITELEYS

GRAND XMAS
BAZAAR & TOY FAIR
ONE OF THE SIGHTS OF LONDON



P 62. The Boy's Favourite Tool Box.

English made. 9/4d., 1/0d., 1/11d., 2/11d., 3/11d., 4/11d., 5/11d., 8/11d.



P 75. The Wonder Pram.

Extraordinary value. Rubber-tyred Wheels, reversible jointed hood, covered Crockett's Leather, nicely painted in Dark Blue or dark Green. 7/11

Better quality and larger 9/11



P 97. The Pets' Stores.

This Box contains all the necessary articles for playing the Game of Shops: a pair of Scales, Weights, Money, Rice, Sweets, Biscuits, a miniature bottle of Jam, tiny Paper Bags, a Book of Invoices, &c., &c. "Endless Fun."

5/4d., 10/4d., 1/11d., 2/11d., 3/11d., 4/11d.



P 512. Dolls' Fitted Trunks.

English made. Complete with Doll, Clothes, etc. 1/11d., 2/6d., 3/6d., 4/11d., 6/11d., 8/11d., 12/11d., 18/11d. to £5 0 0



P 178. Indian Wigwam. As illustrated. Complete for fixing. Quite large enough for children to play in. 18/11

P 179. Indian Suits. Suitable for ages 6 to 12. Boys or Girls. 3/11d., 5/11d., 8/11d., 9/11d.

Illustrated Catalogue of Xmas Gifts, Post Free.

WM. WHITELEY, Ltd., QUEEN'S ROAD, LONDON, E.

Daily Mirror

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 11, 1914.

"YES, BUT . . ."

YESTERDAY we thought that our good friends, the war-pessimists, would for once be in a relatively cheerful mood. Meeting one of them fairly early in the day we said: "This is splendid news from the Navy. Three German cruisers. One feels immensely bucked."

The dear man hesitated for a minute, screwed his mouth up, frowned and began: "Yes, but . . ."

"Yes, but what?"

"Well, this business in Poland is so mysterious—one doesn't know who is winning. It began by being a huge victory. Next day it was a plain victory. Next day it might be a victory (we were told) if only we hoped on. Day after that, no victory; merely indecisive. Next day, defeat for Russians—not serious. Following day, bad defeat of Russians. . . . To-day defeat of Germans. . . . Tomorrow. . . ."

"Oh, shut up!"

"Well, you asked me what I thought."

"Why can't you think of the Navy? What about those cruisers? You've never mentioned them. That's always the way."

And indeed it is invariably the way with pessimists. Let us suppose a victory, an advance, in the anxiously watched line of the west. They face you with, "Yes, but Poland." Conceive a colossal Russian success in Poland. They would retort: "Yes, but in the west." Let Turkey fail. "Yes, but Austria." Let Austria collapse. "Yes, but Turkey." In South Africa, all well. "Yes, but Egypt." In Egypt, nothing to complain of. "Yes, but Zanzibar." We wait for them, we expect them, when, as we all hope, there shall be a great success all round.

What will the Yesbutters be able to say then? All well everywhere. Yesbutism silenced? No, never silenced. Out of the gleaming good some streaks of stain, some evil, can always be extracted. Leave it to the Yesbutter. When an all-round victory comes, he will stop our rejoicings with a Yesbut—"Yesbut, what about Mars?" very probably.

Many of our readers may feel inclined towards irritation against these Yesbutters.

Yet it may just be possible that they perform a useful function. They predict evil, and possibly, by predicting it, prevent it from coming to be. It is an old superstition, applicable to times of conflict and anxiety: never boast of good fortune. If you do, the jealous everliving ones overhear and make up their minds to illustrate their mutability. . . . Not that we believe this exactly. But thus we seek and find a faint excuse for the Yesbutters, who are not bad people at heart and ought not to be too fiercely condemned. . . . W. M.

THE AUTUMN WIND.

Make me thy lyre, even as the forest is:
What if my leaves are falling like its own?
The tumult of thy mighty harmonies

Will take from both a deep autumnal tone,
Sweet thought in sadness. Be thou, Spirit fierce,
My spirit! Be thou me, impetuous one!

Drive my dead thoughts over the universe,
Like wither'd leaves, to quicken a new birth;
And, by the incantation of this verse

Scatter, as from an unextinguish'd hearth
Ashes and sparks, my words among mankind!
Be through my lips to unawaken'd earth

The trumpet of a prophecy! O Wind,
If Winter comes, can Spring be far behind?
—P. B. SHRELLY.

"Daily Mirror Reflections of War and Peace," being Vol. VIII. of Mr. Haselden's cartoons, is just out. It contains more than 100 of the best of them, including many of the series of "Big and Little Willies," which cost 6d. net, postage 2d. There could be no better present for people at home or at the front.

LOOKING THROUGH "THE MIRROR."

"THE DAILY MIRROR" AT THE FRONT.

ALL ranks of this company wish to express their gratitude to the Editor and staff of *The Daily Mirror* for the free copies of this paper which they are receiving daily.

This generous and thoughtful gift is a boon to the soldier in the trenches, where news is at a discount. The company wishes you, your staff and your paper a "Merry Christmas" and the best of luck for the new year. A COMPANY, 2nd Battalion, the Rifle Brigade.

"A GOOD ANTHOLOGY."

WILL you kindly ask your gardening expert if he can tell us where we can get seed of really sweet peas? Those that all the growers advertise have showy flowers, but no scent; yet

wounded soldiers have, according to German military code, rendered themselves liable to summary treatment, and in some cases have been ill-treated and even shot—for their friends' offence!

Better far to send no picture cards at all, but use the space in giving "Tommy" a little home news, which his soul yearns for out there in the frozen trenches. PRUDENCE.

FOOTBALL AND THEATRES.

YOUR correspondent struck a good note when he wrote to you about the difference in closing football grounds and theatres.

Not that I think, speaking only as a woman, a few football players can really affect the great result of the war, as there are many good lads who will take their place; but, as your correspondent says, "Why should theatres be closed?" Some of the stage workers now

BRITAIN AT WAR.

This Year's Christmas in the Home and at the Front.

A FAMILY FESTIVAL.

THE mind of the vulgar always classifies Christmas with "feasting." Our friend "H. M." apparently belongs to this class. In most homes Christmas is regarded as a festival of "good-will and rejoicing," when relatives are once more reunited at the family hearth.

After all, I don't suppose "H. M.'s" "discouraging" would have much effect on such homes as these. REDMUNS.

Eating, W.

DOING WITHOUT.

IN answer to "H. M." I would like to say that hundreds of no-breakfasters in this country follow his plan of meals. Only those who do without such luxuries as breakfast, supper, meat, tea, coffee, cocoa, white bread, etc., can tell how life is worth living.

A warning must be given, however, namely—allow at least six hours between the two meals. Personally, I have dinner at 12.30 and late tea at 7 p.m. This system cured me of indigestion and biliousness! E. F.

YOUR correspondent "H. M." hits the nail on the head. A few of his suggestions, properly carried out, would solve many domestic difficulties, besides decreasing expense. "One-third of what we eat enables us to live; the other two-thirds enable the doctor to live." is very true, and if people would live more simply they would without effort less.

If people would learn to like the old-fashioned English wheatmeal bread there would not be so much need for the costly foodstuffs such as eggs, bacon, meat. These foods are necessary at present to make up for the nutritive elements taken from the wheat in the manufacture of white flour.

One good meal of meat and vegetables, and two others of wheatmeal bread, with salads or fruit, and any good hot beverage, would solve many problems of health and kitchen. SANTITAS.

PLUM PUDDING FOR FIGHTING MEN.

HAS our dyspeptic friend of Dorking joined the Army? From his letter I should say he has not.

If he would join the colours—for preference the machine-gun section—and learn to do everything at the double he would forget that he had a digestion.

Good luck to his friends who want to send plum pudding.

If the Christmas pudding does "deadend our energies" and "deprive us of our hope in life" on Christmas Day, I have not the slightest doubt that a hundred yards sprint with the machine-gun tripod will see us quite fit again by dinner-time on Boxing Day. P. MACHINGUN SEC, 8th R. WARWICKS, Gt. Braxted.

"POST EARLY."

IN a fortnight's time the Christmas postal rush will be upon us, and, in

view of the fact that a great number of the experienced postal staff are away with the colours, we must anticipate a greater straggle with the huge batch of Christmas greeting letters than is usual.

Unfortunately there is a vast majority of the public who postpone the sending of their Christmas greetings.

Possibly there may be some extra pleasure in receiving all or a large number of letters and cards by the Christmas Day post, but I think that, under the prevailing crisis, the public must, as a body, endeavour to assist the authorities in every way, and I suggest as a means of assisting that Christmas cards and letters are posted four, five or six days prior to Christmas, bearing on the flap of the envelope the edit. "open on December 25." G. M. HEFFORD.

A THOUGHT FOR TO-DAY.

We cannot improve the world faster than we improve ourselves.—Mandell Creighton.

BIG AND LITTLE WILLIES' FANCY DRESS FAILURES



As bogus Turks they did very well. Anybody can take in the Ottoman Government. With Italy and America it won't work at all.—(By Mr. W. K. Haselden.)

that is one of the things for which we chiefly value the flower.

As I am writing I should like to tell you how much I appreciate the uniform excellence of your poetical extracts. It is generally the weakest corner of a newspaper, but I am sorry now that I did not cut them out and keep them. They would have made a good anthology by this time. E. L. B.

Walton.

A WARNING.

I WRITE to beg you to draw public attention, through your widely-read paper, to the serious danger of sending comic picture postcards of the Kaiser to our brave men at the front.

Apparently nothing riles a German more than to find pictures ridiculing their War Lord; or others in command, in the possession of a captured enemy. His wrath is immediately vented upon our poor "Tommy" to whom we thoughtlessly sent the card "to cheer him up," and losses have come to light where prisoners or

scarcely get a living wage. This has been cut down; it is quite a case of good actresses just doing what they can to keep their bills paid and their self-respect at a sacrifice of any personal pleasure. N. G.

IN MY GARDEN.

DEC. 10.—Rambler roses are often left to take care of themselves, becoming a thick mass of untidy growth. But if they are properly attended to each year they will grow into finer specimens and produce masses of lovely flowers.

Rambler roses may be trained any time during the winter. Some of the shoots that have borne flowers should be cut right away and the new growths tied in. If the shoots are bent well over they will bloom splendidly.

Rambler plants this autumn should be cut almost to the ground next April; this will induce healthy and strong wood to be formed. E. F. T.

WAR AND THE THEATRES: SPY PLAY PRODUCED LAST NIGHT

P. 12657



The spy overpowered.



Christopher discovers the spy's wireless apparatus in the fireplace.



The love element.

A spy play, entitled "The Man Who Stayed at Home," was produced at the Royalty Theatre last night. The time is last September and the setting a boarding-house on the

east coast, where the plans of a German spy are foiled by the hero—the man who stays at home.—(Daily Mirror photographs.)



"We will hunt these Germans out like rats," says Marcel.

The war is making its influence much felt at the theatres and music-halls, and the Coliseum has staged a military drama entitled "The Bells of St. Valoir." It is by Mr.



The finale. Marcel (Mr. Gerald Kirby) shoots the German major in the chateau.

Max Pemberton, and has a French captain (Marcel) for the hero and a German for the villain.—(Daily Mirror photographs.)

AN ARTILLERY DUEL.

9.251



Austrian artillery in action. A Russian shrapnel shell is seen bursting near by. The Austrians have just been heavily defeated by both Russians and Servians.—(Underwood.)

TINY TWINS AT A WEDDING.

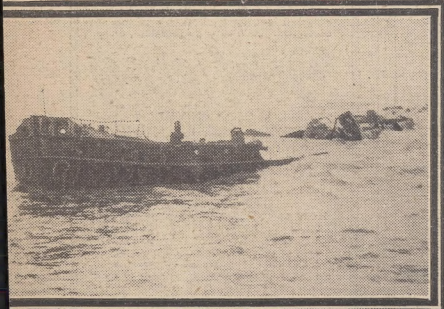
P. 16767



Noel Francis (Royal Field Artillery), who had only a few hours' leave from the front, was married in London yesterday to Miss Gwendolen van Raalte. The pictures show the newly-married pair and Lord Howard de Walden's tiny twin children, who distributed flower favours. The bride is their aunt.

34 DEAD IN BLAZING SHIP.

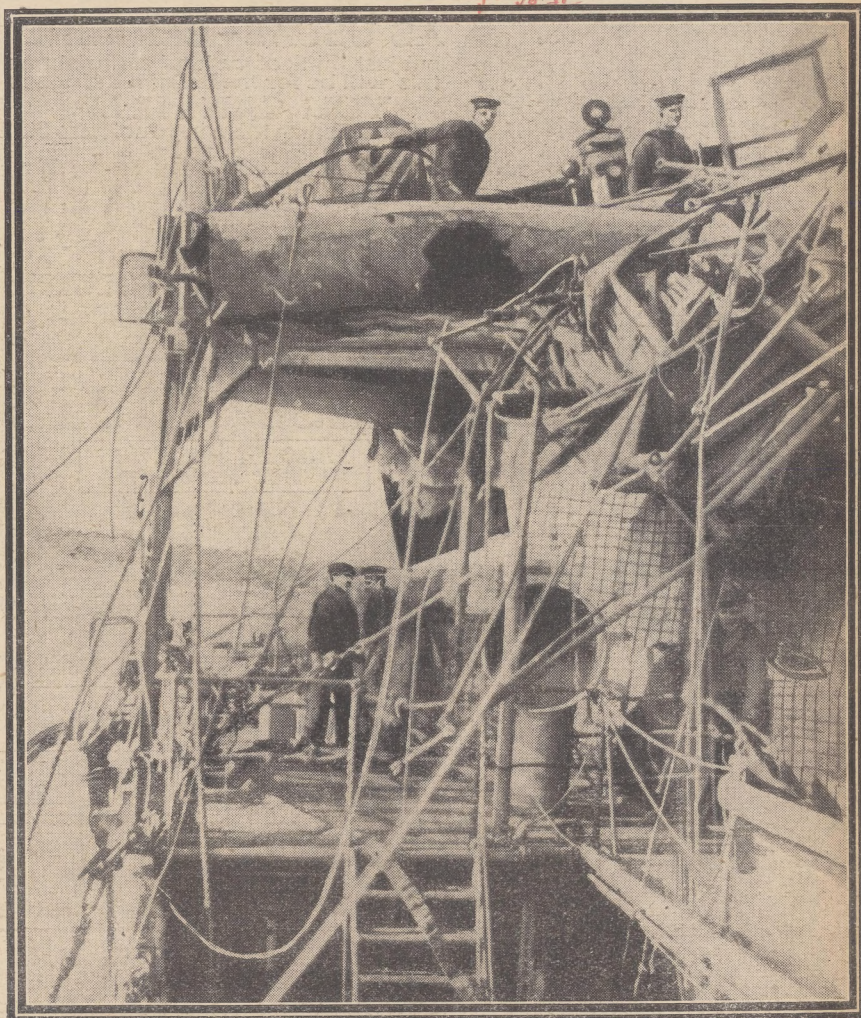
9.2045 B



What remains of the British oil tank steamer, Vedra, which blew off Barrow. Only two members of the crew of thirty-six escaped alive, and they were injured.

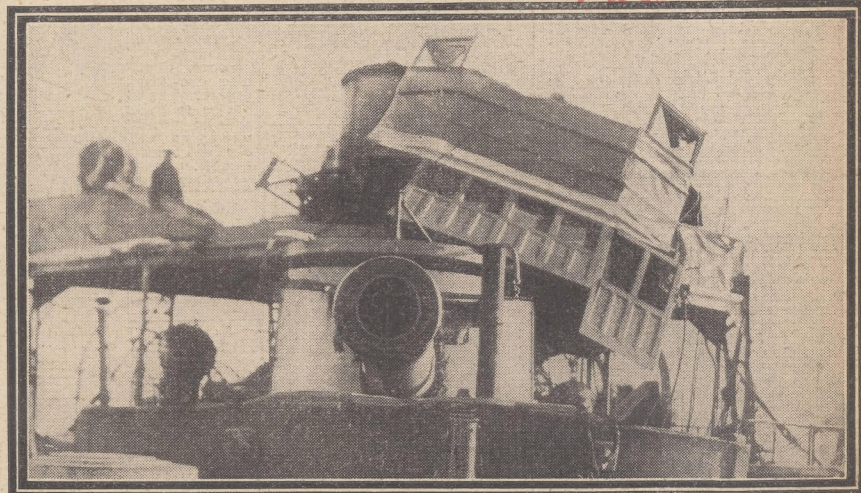
DAMAGED, BUT NOT BY GERMAN GUNS.

9.35 H



The bridge was badly damaged. The foremast was also carried away by the mountainous seas.

9.35 H



Bridge and charthouse which were wrecked.

H.M.S. Venus has been badly damaged, but not in action. She encountered terrific westerly gales in the Atlantic, and shipping several heavy seas was finally obliged to seek refuge in a port. She is a light cruiser of 5,600 tons displacement, her chief armament being eleven 6in. guns.

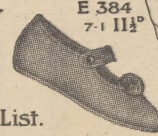


PICTURE
SLIPPERS
1/6!

Splendid Productions
demonstrate to a
HIGH DEGREE
DISTINCTIVE STYLE
AT THE
KEENEST PRICES.



CHRISTMAS
AS USUAL - CERTAINLY
but just think of the kind of Christmas
this will be for the Belgian Refugees
YOU CAN HELP
them by including them in your Xmas Gift List.



E 384
7-1 11 1/2"



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FOR
PRACTICAL
COMFORTABLE
& INEXPENSIVE
XMAS GIFTS.

FREEMAN, HARDY & WILLIS'

470 BRANCHES
ARE ALL PLEASING GIFT CENTRES

— OF —
SLIPPERS
— AND —
DRESS SHOES

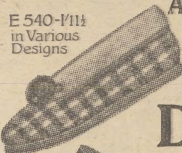
LARGEST SELECTION
IN THE KINGDOM.

SPEND
YOUR GIFT
MONEY
WISELY &
WELL

DO YOUR
SHOPPING EARLY

EARLY IN
THE DAY AND
EARLY IN THE SEASON

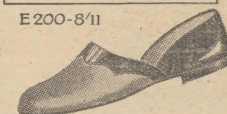
SATIN
SHOES &
DANCING
SANDALS
in great variety
WITH HOSE
TO MATCH



E 540-1/11 1/2
in Various
Designs



E 209-2 1/11 1/2"



E 200-8 1/11"



E 98-5 1/11"



E 108-7/6
in Black Tan
and Patent



E 85
11-1 3/11 1/2
2-5 4/11 1/2"



E 526-1 1/11 1/2
The Boudoir
in Black Green
Blue, Claret
Cinnamon



E 230-3 1/11 1/2"



E 155-1 1/11 1/2"



E 350-2 1/11 1/2
also at 3 1/11 1/2
4 1/11 1/2 5 1/11 1/2"

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DELIGHTS.
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1/10 1/2
Post fid.



Bring the Girls and Boys to Our Grand Xmas Fair and War Tableaux. They will enjoy it and so will you. Admission 6d. (returnable).

OVERCROWDED Stores and weary assistants are certainly not helps to Present Purchasing; but if you leave your buying until the very last minute, what else can you expect? Our advice to you is—Do your shopping at once and avoid trouble.



THE
'BOY'S OWN'
ANNUAL.

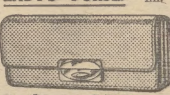
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LETTER CASE.



Splendid Value. Crushed Persian, Large Bank Note Pocket at back. Size when closed 6 1/2 in. by 3 1/11 1/2 in. ... 3/11 1/2

LADY'S PURSE.



Size 4 1/2 by 2 in. 2/11 1/2 Price Fine quality Crushed Persian Leather. Fitted centre gold and stamp pockets. A large selection at the following prices: 3/11, 4/6, 5/6, 6/6, 7/6, 8/11, 10/6 and 12/6 each.



Strong White
Metal Screw Top
SPRIT FLASK.

Useful for those on Active Service. Slightly shaped to fit comfortably into pocket. Size 4 in. by 3 1/2 in. Price 3/9 Post 2d.



CRUMB BRUSH AND TRAY.

The "VINCENT." With best nickel-plated or bronzed corners, black rims and light centre. Size 6 by 8 in. Price 5/- Ditto, with dark Oak rim and base. 5/9 Post free.



Christmas Gifts for Men at the Front
MILITARY CAP COMFORTER.

All Wool. Can be used as a cap or a scarf. The latest in Sleeping Caps. 1 1/2 by 1 1/2 each. Post 2d.



Model No. 2 AN IDEAL XMAS GIFT.

Have real Comfort in your Home—Get a BERKELEY

Every Berkeley is made in our own Factories by British workmen. The Model No. 2, as illustrated, is roomy and comfortable, built on strong birchwood frame, with best steel-coppered springs, hygienic stuffing, and thoroughly well upholstered in smart, durable Tapestries to match any scheme of decoration. As a sure guarantee, every

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Choose your covering from our samples (sent free), and then send 2/6 only with your order. We send the Chair without further payment, carriage paid in England and Wales, for your approval, and if you are not completely satisfied you may return it at our expense, and we will refund your money in full, or 2/6 with order and balance 4/- monthly.

FREE Send postcard to day for patterns of Tapestries and full particulars
H. J. SEARLE & SON, LD.
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Liver and Bowels Right. Always Feel Fine

There's one right way to speedily tone up the liver and keep the bowels regular.

Carter's Little Liver Pills never fail. Millions will testify that there is nothing so good for biliousness, indigestion, headache, or pimpled skin. Purely vegetable.

Small Pill - Small Dose - Small Price
GENUINE must bear signature.



Brent Good

HOLBORN, LONDON, E.C.

The Story of a Girl's Temptation.

By META SIMMINS.

Then send it on to your relations or friends
at the Front, Camp, or Hospital
ALWAYS MERRY AND BRIGHT.

sitting-room, where the air was heavy with the smell of the lamps, long since extinguished, and the rank perfume of the faded flowers with which the dinner-table had been decked.

Sold by Whiteley's, Selfridge's,
Spiers & Pond, Jones & Higgins,
and obtainable through all
Ironmongers and Stores, or sent
direct on 7 days' approval on receipt of the price,
1/6 and 3d. postage.

IT was as clear as noonday on the verandah when Sylvia stole out on to it through the sitting-room, where the air was heavy with the smell of the lamps, long since extinguished, and the rank perfume of the faded flowers with which the dinner-table had been decked.

In the glare of the moonlight every detail of

(Translation, dramatic, and all other rights secured.)

THIS MORNING'S GOSSIP

The Distant Falklands.

The Falkland Islands, which have jumped into history in a night, one might say, have always fascinated me, mainly, perhaps, because they seem so far away, not only from England, but from any part of the British Empire. Yet, in their small and distant way, they have always managed to get themselves talked about; now they are famous.

Sheep Farming.

In the old days they were the welcome refuge of the South Sea whalers. I can remember an old and weathered salt who knew them in the days when steamships were objects of curiosity on the high seas. To him the Falklands meant harbour, fresh water and rest. Also fresh meat, for the Falklands were even then known for their sheep, and fresh mutton was welcome to the old-time wind-jammer.

Admiral Sturdee Pays the Bill.

Later I heard of the islands from travellers who had strayed a little from the beaten track. They spoke of them as rocky and wind-swept, inhabited by a hard and hospitable race of Scots settlers. Always pleasant things I have heard of the Falklands, but never anything so welcome as that message that came to us yesterday—to some of us even on the night before—of Admiral Sturdee's repayment of a little account owing to the Kaiser's navy.

2,000,000 Miles of Diocese.

Yesterday I sought information about the Falklands eagerly, and I learned many things. A parson friend told me that it was the centre of a diocese of some 2,000,000 miles area, a diocese that includes the South Pole. There is a cathedral at Stanley, and a Bishop of the Falkland Islands, who, with less than a score of assistants, has to care for this vast diocese. Most of his work, I understand, lies in South America, from which he is distant some 250 miles.

To Solve the Servant Problem.

From another friend I learned that the domestic servant problem is acute in the Falklands. Domestic servants are rare, and householders have to rely on emigrants from home who come out, I believe, on Government assisted passages. But, as so often happens in far-away places the servant no sooner arrives than she captures the heart of some lonely native of the place and marries.

Must Bring Another Out.

To check this in the Falklands all servants who come from home must agree to remain in service for three years. If they want to marry then the husband-elect must undertake to pay the passage out of another servant to take the place of his bride.

Montenegro's Plight.

The misfortunes of the soldiers of our gallant little ally Montenegro are being brought to notice in this country by Lady Parkington, wife of the Montenegrin representative in this country. The plight of the Montenegrin, wounded is very terrible. The little mountain State has no proper organisation for Red Cross work, and it is pointed out that all the able-bodied men of the country are actually at the war.



Sir Roper Parkington.

Busy Sir John.

Sir John Roper Parkington mingles high diplomacy with the pleasant pursuits of the wine trade. He is one of the founders of the Entente Cordiale Association, and is hon. colonel of the 7th Battalion of the Essex Regiment. He served in the Army some years ago, and was a major in the 3rd East Surreys. Everybody likes him, and he is a most popular "diner-out." At one time Montenegrin affairs did not seem likely to cause him very much work, yet in the past months, since the beginning of the Balkan War, he has been one of the busiest of London diplomats.

Ahlers's Death Sentence.

Most people I met yesterday seemed to be under the impression that Ahlers, the ex-German Consul who was sentenced to death for high treason, would be shot. Ahlers was sentenced to be hanged—the only form of death sentence, I believe, a civil court may pass. Had he been tried by court-martial the case would have been different, and shooting would have been the form of execution.

From the Trenches.

A good story is going the rounds of the trenches in France. It appears that an Irish sergeant, having lost all his officers, was put in charge of the remnants of his company and told to keep his position, a very serious one at that, as long as possible.

Just a Friendly Greeting.

For forty-eight hours the Germans were unable to move this brave company, and then the sergeant got word from General French stating that relief would soon be at hand, winding up his message by asking "How are things with you?" meaning the position and strength of company. Back went the reply: "Can hold out as long as needed. Am very well, thanks. How are you?"

Football Applicants Gain Ground.

Though in our football for the troops campaign we succeeded in routing the forces of the applicants yesterday, as I anticipated strong reinforcements were brought up from the trenches and the camps, and once more the demand exceeds the supply. Yesterday's post brought me a shoal of applications. It also brought me more footballs, but not enough, so I am tempted to ask you to make another effort and to attempt to raise a third hundred.

Wounded Men Play.

Among the letters of acknowledgment I received yesterday was one from the 2nd Eastern General Hospital at Brighton, to which one of the balls went. "If you could thoroughly realise what a pleasure it is," says the writer, "to know that we can all now amuse ourselves during our periods of relief, you would more appreciate our thanks." Among those who are enjoying the ball, the writer adds, are men "who have been wounded by shrapnel in the arms, but yet can propel the leather with the force a professional might envy."

Some Who Sent.

I find among the seventeen balls received yesterday was one from the officers and men of the Worcester Yeomanry at the Star Riding School, Worcester. The ball is to go to the Worcesters at the front from their fellow-countrymen at home. Worcester also sent me two more balls, these from the boys of the Grammar School, Hanley Castle; another came from Master Dick Hall, of Gorleston, a five-year-old warrior, who wishes he was "old enough to go and fight Germans;" and yet another came from the Deptford Workhouse Officers' Football Club, which, being suspended owing to many of its members being at the front, sends me a ball it can no longer use. To all these and the other generous donors I offer my best thanks.

What They Make Do.

From among the letters of application I pick out just one to show how much the balls are wanted. An A.S.C. driver with a field ambulance on active service in France writes: "We really and truly want a ball badly. Now we turn out with a piece of sacking tied and stuffed with straw; we have managed so far, but you can guess how pleased we should be to get the real thing. We often play matches with our improvised ball and enjoy them immensely, except when just as we see a chance of scoring our ball falls to pieces and we have to stop for repairs!"

Shall We Make It 300?

I am sending a ball to this real sportsman and his comrades to-day. But there are lots more like him "out there," so what do you say to the third hundred? Shall we send them?

Lady Decies.

When I wrote yesterday of a Lady Decies being wounded while doing Red Cross work at Dunkirk, I mentioned that there were three Ladies Decies now alive; that fact has led me into error. Lady Decies, wife of the present baron, telephoned me yesterday to say that it was not she but Gertrude Lady Decies, her sister-in-law, who was wounded in Dunkirk. Gertrude Lady Decies is returning to England shortly, I understand.

New Use for German Helmets.

"Tell father I hope to have a drink with him out of a German helmet," writes one of five soldier sons to his mother, Mrs. Wyatt, of 77, St. Margaret's-road, Barking. A fat-headed German's helmet, too, I hope; there will be more of it.

A War Engagement.

The engagement of Captain Lord Francis Scott, youngest son of the late Duke of Buccleuch, a Grenadier Guardsman who is now serving with the Irish Guards, and Lady Eileen Elliot, eldest daughter of the late Lord Minto, is the outcome, I am told, of a friendship formed in India some years ago, when Lord Francis was on Lord Minto's staff in India. Lord Francis Scott is a famous Guardsman cricketer, and holds the record Indian batting average, his average for a dozen innings while playing for the Calcutta Club in 1906 being 194.



Lady Eileen Elliot.

Both Good Shots.

He is also a big game shot, and so is Lady Eileen. She has many fine bags from

the Indian jungles to her credit. Lady Eileen accompanied her father and Lady Minto on their last shooting expedition in the vicinity of Agra before finally leaving India, and she then shot a fine tigress, a splendid bison falling to her mother's rifle. Lady Eileen Elliot is a clever amateur actress, who has often taken part in theatricals in aid of charities.

The War's Revivals.

We all thought that modern warfare would kill all the old customs of our men in the field; yet, curiously enough, every day seems to bring us new examples of the revival of old-time manners and customs of battle. The growing use of the mortar—a weapon we had reckoned obsolete for years—for instance; the use of hand grenades, and even darts, which our airmen drop from the skies.

"Good Morning!"

And now I learn that that time-honoured custom of sending more or less friendly messages to the enemy by means of chalked sentences on a projectile is still maintained. A gunner friend tells me that his battery will often open the day's work by firing across to the enemy a dummy shell with the words "Good morning!" painted on it. This shell, of course, does not explode, and the message arrives for all to read. But the British gunners don't give the Germans much time; they have a way of following up their "good morning" with good lyddite.

Scientific Puddings.

The Women's Emergency Corps have found a new use for the old chemical laboratory at their headquarters: it has been turned into an up-to-date hygienic kitchen. Plum puddings are being made there at the rate of 50lb. a day. The idea of employing the "lab." at such reasonable work was suggested by the gift of 700 eggs, and a lady gave the corps a wonderful old Irish recipe which has been in her family for over 100 years.

British Artists with the Rifle.

"And those British soldiers—the beggars are simply artists when it comes to shooting." Such is the comment made by a German officer in a letter, published in *Vorwaerts*, about the rifle work of our men. "If but a hand is shown over a German trench," he goes on, "it's shot through clean as a whistle."

If They Had Only Known.

"Our losses would have been much less serious if our men had known at first what they know now, namely, that the French artillery is first class and that the British soldiers are first class. The ink-slingers and armchair critics were all wrong. I hear, too, that the Russians are armed with first class weapons, while the material of their uniforms is better than ours, as it is waterproof. Battles, we see, can't be won by despising and disparaging the enemy."

"Poisonous Writer."

General von Bissing is the commander of the 7th German Army Corps, and, judging by one of his recent orders quoted in *Vorwaerts*, he is very much annoyed. He receives daily hundreds of letters denouncing people for shirking their duty, and, as most of them are prompted by spite and all are anonymous, he has had a lot of needless work. General von Bissing addresses his order to "the poisonous and unworthy writer" (giftiger nichtswürdiger schreiber), and tells him he would like to send him to the front, where the enemy's fire will teach him to sing another tune.

THE RAMBLER.



THE GREAT NAVAL VICTORY

has redoubled the interest of the nation in the gallant deeds of its fighting forces.

Nothing brings home more vividly the realities of the colossal struggle than the pages of that remarkable journal "The War Illustrated," which week by week presents a mirror of the operations of the Allied Armies by land, sea and air.

Packed with startling photographs and masterly drawings, it is a veritable picture album of the war and an inspiring record of indomitable heroism.



Take Advantage of this Great Offer—NOW

Send 8/6 for First Payment, and a Splendid Billiard Table Will Be Dispatched to Your Home. You Have No Trouble, No Worry.

SEVEN DAYS' FULL PLAY ALLOWED TO TEST THE MERITS OF THE TABLE—FREE.

How to entertain at Christmas will be a problem occupying the minds of thousands of people now, and for many reasons Christmas will be celebrated in a quiet way at home. But what is required is amusement that can be shared by all, as varied temperaments and natures must be studied. Old and young—grave and gay—all must be catered for. No game can equal billiards for all-round entertainment—it provides



"Yes—always at home now we have got our Riley Home Billiard Table."

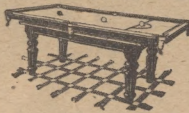
straight to the home, large or small. And now within the confines of the home circle, wholesome amusement can be shared by all, and the

ENJOYMENT STRENGTHENS AS IT LENGTHENS.

Billiard playing stimulates all participants, and promotes the proper spirit of goodwill and good-fellowship. It also develops accuracy, calculation and concentration in the younger generation—and holds its own against all outside attractions.

A PERFECT TABLE FOR EVERY HOME.

Riley's, of Accrington, are now making and placing in thousands of homes miniature tables with all the characteristics of their famous full-sized tables embodied. Every table is as accurate as science and skill can make it and, no matter the size of the room, there's a Riley table to fit it. The most popular size made is 6ft. 4in. by 3ft. 4in. (cash price £25 ss.), to fit any ordinary sized room.



Riley Miniature Table resting on dining-table.

SPECIAL OFFER WITH EVERY TABLE.

Riley's have made the buying terms so easy that for the small sum of 8s. 6d. down and twelve small payments of 8s. 6d. they will deliver free within one mile of nearest railway station in United Kingdom a miniature table, 6ft. 4in. by 3ft. 4in. for seven days full play to test it—FREE. If your room requires a smaller sized table, there's a Riley table to fit it, and the payments will be accordingly smaller.

But supposing for some reason or other you are not satisfied with your table after the seven days' trial, all you have to do is to pack it up, advise Riley's and they will have it removed free of any cost to you. Of course, no one ever sends a Riley table back. As a matter of fact, once the table is in the house and everyone has had a trial run of the balls—it becomes a firm and lasting favourite.

In addition to the Miniature Table, Riley's have another table, the

"COMBINE" BILLIARD AND DINING TABLE. Where a room cannot be set aside for Billiards the "Combine" is most convenient. Built in exact proportion, it gives the same accurate and perfect game as the standard size. Beautifully made, it is a handsome piece of furniture as a dining table, and can be converted to required



Showing Riley's "Combine" Table and easy method of change.

purpose in a few seconds by a very simple piece of mechanism. The prices range from £13 10s. to £32, according to size, and this table can also be secured on easy payments, spread over thirteen or eighteen months.

FREE

On receipt of postcard fully detailed Catalogue of Riley's Miniature Tables and "Combine" Tables, giving all information as to size, prices, etc. Write for it NOW.

E. J. RILEY, Ltd., Victoria Works, Accrington. London Showrooms: 147, Aldersgate-street, E.C.

BRITISH BATTERY IN ACTION, 8.331



These are the men who by dealing death among the German soldiers are forcing them to retire, slowly but surely.

The Two Letters.

(Continued from page 9.)

French windows on to the trim green lawns of an English garden.

This morning yet again as Sylvia laid down her flowers and looked about for some suitable vase she was impressed with the strange sense of unreality that this room possessed here in this strange secret land of the East.

She found the deep-mouthed vase that she desired, and clapped her hands for a servant to fill with water.

Hillier's own bearer answered the summons. He was the only member of the household who had travelled up with them from Magalla. He took the vase and returned with it full.

He was a delightfully cheerful person, this bearer of Hillier's, a Madrassee, with a face that could on occasion be as expressionless as an ebony mask. He talked English excellently, and Sylvia loved to chatter to him. This morning, afraid of her thoughts as she always was now since the day that Valerie's letter had come, she detained the man there in the gay drawing-room of the bungalow on one pretext and another.

Presently, with a cheerful grin, he asked her a question.

"The mensahib expects a visitor?" he asked. Sylvia started as though the man had struck her a blow.

What do you mean? "She was not aware of the note of fear that whistled in her voice, and if the man noticed any change in her manner his own expression gave no hint of it.

"An English mensahib has arrived in Napur," he said cheerfully. "At least, so the talk is among those of the household. And if not a visitor for the mensahib—"

Sylvia cut the sentence short with a quick movement of the hand. Her quick ears had caught the sound of Hillier's slightly hesitating footsteps coming along the corridor.

"Yes; I do expect a visitor," she said rapidly in a lower voice. "But no word of the arrival of this English mensahib must be spoken to your master. It is a surprise that I have prepared for him."

She smiled on the man, who made an instant gesture of comprehension, and turned to meet her husband as he entered the room.

The blow had fallen. Her instinct told her that. Valerie had arrived already in Napur. She had not expected that it would be possible for her to arrive for another week.

"Valerie, I want you to write some letters for me," Hillier said.

"This morning?"

"Yes—they're important. I've been putting them off from day to day."

"Write letters this morning!" Sylvia repeated

almost stupidly. "I can't. I—I've got other things to do."

Her words and tones jarred intolerably on Hillier. He turned without a word and went out of the room.

Sylvia made a quick step after him. What had possessed her? She had answered him as some impertinent servant might have answered him. A rush of tears came to her eyes and she went to the door to follow him.

In the corridor she met the bearer, who saluted to her.

"I come with the news that the mensahib is already on her way," he told her, smiling like a child who shares a secret.

Valerie already on her way to the bungalow. Sylvia's heart beat swiftly. She must go to meet her. It was imperative that she must have some word of explanation with Valerie before she returned to the house.

There will be an interesting instalment to-morrow.

'CHASING AT WINDSOR.

Much better weather favoured the concluding stage of the Windsor meeting yesterday, and although fields were smaller than on the opening day the sport was interesting throughout.

Fil d'Eoosse, who had won at Kempton after her disqualification at Birmingham, gained another easy victory in the December Hurdle, so her Belgian owner has had ample compensation for the disappointment in the Midlands.

Gnu, a notorious welsheer on the flat, cut up badly in the Thursday Hurdle—won by Richechet—but Sergio, in taking the Three-Year-Old Hurdle, at last did something to atone for his many failures at the other game.

SELECTIONS FOR GATWICK.

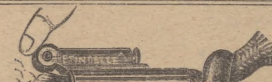
1. 0.—Finley Steeplechase—GEOFFREY HILL.
2. 0.—December Steeplechase—GEORGE B.
3. 0.—Gordon Hurdle—BILBERRY.
5. 0.—Timberham Hurdle—CROSSARD.

DOUBLE EVENT FOR TO-DAY.

GEORGE B. and BILBERRY. BOUVIERIE.

WINDSOR RACING RETURNS.

1. 0.—College Chase. 2m. 100y.—Grey Lag IV. (5-1, Helms). 1. Momento (2-1). 2. Royal Canal (15-9). 5-6.
1. 30.—Thursday Hurdle. 2m.—Ricochet (7-1, Driscoll).
1. 30.—Devil Catcher (8-1). 2. Maryland II. (100-6). 3. 20 ran.
2. 0.—December Hurdle. 2m.—Fil d'Eoosse (evens, Hoper). 1. Capt. Dreyfus (4-1). 2. Responsible (10-1). 3. 9 ran.
2. 30.—Paddock Chase. 2m. 100y.—Comfort (9-2, Mr. Dwyer). 1. Ignitus (8-2). 2. Gold Seal II. (7-2). 3. 4 ran.
3. 0.—Three-Year-Old Hurdle. 11m.—Sergio (5-4, fig shot). 1. Port of Spain (10-1). 2. Desmond's Song (20-1). 13 ran.
3. 30.—Club Chase. 3m.—Lynchpin (5-6, Mr. J. R. Anthony). 1. Bruce (2-1). 2. Sir Percy (10-1). 3. 4 ran.



USEFUL PRESENT FOR A MAN

F20. Tinder and Flint Lighter in plain white metal. The higher the wind the brighter it burns.

1/6

DERRY & TOMS, Kensington

PALLADIUM, 8.10 and 9. Mon. Wed. and Sat. 2.30, 3.10 and 5. Ernest C. Ellis' Revue. "FULL INSIDE." ALBERT CHEVALIER, OCTAVE BELLOY, BILLY MERRISON, JOE ELVIN and MASKELINE and DEVAUT'S MYSTERIES, St. George's Hall, Oxford Circus, W.—Daily, 2.30 and 7.30. Seats, 1s. 6s.

PUBLIC NOTICE.

REQUIRED FOR WORK IN THE ROYAL NAVAL TORPEDO FACTORY, GREENOCK, GERMES. Turnouts—for 1½ hr., accurate work; must be used to Screw Cutting.

48-hour week. 80 per cent. are on overtime and 90 per cent. on piecework. Average earnings are now £3 10s. 0d. per week.

MACHINISTS—for milling; also CAPTAIN LATIE OPERATORS.

48-hour week. 85 per cent. are now on overtime and 90 per cent. on piecework. Average earnings are now over 55s. per week.

Work for at least one year to men of satisfactory conduct and abilities. Applications, stating age and particulars of experience, to Chief Foreman at the Factory.

AVIARIES, POULTRY AND PETS.

SINGING Canaries—Best, cheapest, list free; ill. cat. aviaries, cages, stamp—Rudd, Specialist, Norwich.

MACKINTOSH'S

TOFFEE de LUXE

CREAMY TOFFEE

ALLIES TOFFEE

GOLDEN PATS

TIPPERARY TOFFEE

CREAMY KLIXO

CREAMY BITS

EGG & MILK TOFFEE

STUCK IN THE MUD: TRANSPORT DIFFICULTIES IN GALICIA.

9251 A



Torrential rains have added greatly to the difficulties of the Austrian Army, which is now disheartened and weary as the result of its continuous defeats at the hands of the

Russians. The picture, taken in Galicia, shows a gun-carriage the wheels of which are firmly embedded in the mud.—(Underwood and Underwood.)

LIEUT. ASQUITH.

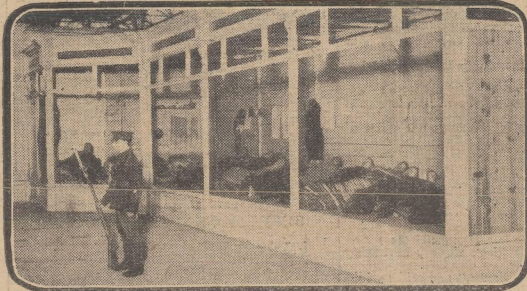
P. 2420



Lieutenant Cyril Asquith, a son of the Prime Minister, drilling with the Queen's Westminsters on Hampstead Heath yesterday. This regiment has been in the trenches.

SOLDIERS SLEEP IN SHOW-CASES AT THE WHITE CITY.

9.330 X



The show-cases have come in handy as "bedrooms."

9.330 X



The grotesque figure looks as though it would eat them up.

The White City is no longer a rendezvous for the Londoner in search of pleasure. It is being used for a more serious purpose—the training of soldiers. But the switchbacks and side-shows still remain, and men can be seen drilling daily in front of "The Devil's Cave," a huge figure with a wide-open mouth.

9.3308



"The glad hand."—(Daily-Mirror photographs.)